[*English*]

Removal of overhead Electric Wirings in Delhi

*425. SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI:
SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA:

Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Commission on urbanisation in its report submitted in August 1988 has recommended that overhead electric wires add to visual pollution;

(b) if so, whether there is any proposal to lay underground the overhead electric wirings by the DESU to check pilferage of electricity, visual pollution and frequent fire accidents in jhuggis;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the time by which the project is likely to be completed and the total expenditure likely to be incurred thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) The National Commission on Urbanisation in its report of August, 1988 has made the following observation in Para 12.4.30, regarding:-

Controls on outdoor advertising & overhead wires

"Perhaps the most distressing visual element in the old or historic quarters of our cities is the manner in which hardings, signboards and posters deface the facades of building. City-walls gates, architectural features, house walls and even protected monuments-nothing is spared from the destructive effect of completely indiscriminate use of outdoor display methods. Overhead electric and telephone wires add their inconsiderable contribution to the visual pollution."

However, Commission had not made any specific recommendation on this subject, in its list of recommendations.

(b) In view of the enormous expenditure involved and the resource constraints, DUSU has no proposal for the present to convert the existing overhead system to underground system.

(c) and (d). Does not arise in view of answer to part (b) of the question.

[*Translation*]

New Rail Links in Haryana

*426. SHRI AVTAR SINGH BHADANA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is proposed to lay a railway line connecting Rohtak, Rewari, Tauru, Sohna, Nuh, Palwal with Meerut under the National Capital Region Plan;

(b) whether it is also proposed to lay a metre gauge railway line from Gurgaon to Alwar for the development of backward area of Mewat;

(c) if so, the time by which these lines are likely to be laid; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor in each case?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) and (b). No, Sir.